Serial No. 10/776,887 Attorney Docket No. 2003-IP-009967U1P1

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: COLIN TEMPLE 8 Group Art Unit: 1796 § Serial No.: 10/776,887 § Confirmation No: 3325 8 š Filed: FEBRUARY 11, 2004 Examiner: FIGUEROA, JOHN J. 8 For: "DRILLING FLUIDS WITH 2003-IP-009967U1P1 Atty Docket: IMPROVED SHALE INHIBITION AND METHODS OF DRILLING IN 8 SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS"

MAIL STOP RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## CERTIFICATE OF FILING ELECTRONICALLY VIA EFS 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE A REASONABLE BASIS FOR BELIEF THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING SUBMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE VIA EFS (ELECTRONICALLY) ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW, AND IS ADDRESSED TO:

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

/ Elizabeth L. Durham /

ELIZABETH L. DURHAM

DATE OF SUBMISSION: APRIL 1, 2010
ELECTRONIC FILING (EFS)

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

Dear Honorable Commissioner:

Applicants hereby request continued examination, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, for the above-identified application.

This request is being submitted before: (i) the abandonment of this application; (ii) payment of the issue fee; (iii) the filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; or (iv) the commencement of a civil action under 35 U.S.C. § 145 or 35 U.S.C. § 146. In response to the Final Office Action mailed on January 5, 2010 (the "Final

Office Action"), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action in light of the amendments and remarks below.

Applicants submit the following:

- Amendments to the Claims, which begin on page 3 of this paper and
- Remarks/Arguments, which begin on page 12 of this paper.